

VIOLA DA GAMBA SOCIETY PACIFICA VOLUME 21, NO. 1 SEPTEMBER 2007

GAMMA NEWS

VdGS-Pacifica Announces 2007-2008 Lineup

It's a new season! Along with football (remember when you didn't need cable to watch Monday night football?), back-to-school (remember being in school?), and the Nordstrom Half-Yearly Sale for Women and Kids, fall brings the start of the new Play Day Season. Our coaching liaison, Alexandra Saur, has done another great job of lining up our coaches, with Elisabeth Reed kicking things off on Saturday, September 15. Remember that play days start at 9:15 am, and please note the unusual September and October dates, due to church (un)availability.

Each month, as soon as you receive your Gamba News (or before), please call or email John Mark to tell him you will attend the upcoming play day and what size(s) you will bring. (510) 531-1471; mark_bach8@hotmail.com.

All play days except those at Stanford are held at Zion Lutheran Church, 5201 Park Boulevard, Oakland. The church is just west of the Park Boulevard exit off Highway 13. We meet at 9:15 am for the coached session.

Sheet music, coffee and tea will be supplied. Please bring either a sack lunch for yourself or a dish or drinks to share at our customary potluck. The church has a microwave we can use. There is also a Mexican restaurant close by.

Please bring a music stand and any consort music of your own you'd like to play. Consorts are formed based on the information you provide to John Mark. Newcomers and rank beginners are welcome.

DATE	COACH
September 15	Elisabeth Reed
October 27	Amy Brodo
November 10	Joanna Blendulf
December 8	William Skeen
January 12	Julie Jeffrey
March 8	Roy Whelden
April 12	Farley Pearce
May 10	Shira Kammen

Alvin Roper

Al is now living in a senior nursing home in Arizona, near some of George's relatives. He has graciously donated his music library and his instruments (bass viol and recorders) to the Pacifica chapter. He would welcome your telephone calls at the facility, reached at (623) 505-3676.

Pan-Pacific Gathering

If you weren't able to make it to Hawaii this summer, you can read all about the Pan-Pacific Gamba Gathering at <http://starbulletin.com/2007/07/29/features/story01.html>. The article is by John Mark's son, Steven.

**Viol
Talk**

Elisabeth Reed in the Examiner

Read more about the San Francisco Conservatory and their faculty recital program: http://www.examiner.com/a-901424~S_F_Conservatory_Smart_music_source.html

Dues Reminder

It will soon be time to renew your membership in the Pacifica chapter. Please note that new membership fees are \$35 for individual players, and \$45 for two-person memberships. Newsletter-only memberships remain \$10.

Board Meeting September 18

The next board meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 18, 7:30 pm, at the home of Ellen Farwell, 1807 Butte St., Richmond. All are invited!

For Sale

Visit Your Local Viol Builder! 7-string bass, Bertrand model, rich sound. 6-string bass, Jaye model, bright and delightful to play. Treble, Hoskins model. Tenors and other bass models also available. Soft and hard cases custom-fitted to your instrument. Repairs. Come by to try an instrument, take a shop tour and learn about building viols, or for idle chit-chat. **Alexandra Saur**, (510) 558-6927; (510) 559-9563, in Albany.

Bow Repair Alexandra Saur is now offering rehairing for both modern and early bows. Top quality hair and quick turnaround! 510-559-9563, bowrehair@alexandrasaur.com.

Lazar's Early Music

Moeck (recorders and early winds), Kueng, Mollenhauer, Yamaha, Aesthe, Dolmetsch Millenium Recorders, and others in the near future. Competitive prices, instruments sent on approval, personalized service and advice. **Bill Lazar**, (408) 734-4920.

Bass viol, funky student model. String length 57.5 cm, metal strings, minimal soft case, tuning machines, stable repaired crack on bottom side. Label: Emmo Koch, 2139 Laurenbrück, Bez. Bremen, Barbrahof. \$500

Pictures are available on www.bill-lazar.com; go to the 'used instruments' page. Contact **Bill Lazar**, jblazar@aol.com, (408) 734-4920 for more information.

Ruby Instruments

The world's first production model of a 7-string solid body electric viola da gamba! Play traditional and crossover music on one instrument! To hear and play the Ruby, contact **Kirby Leong**, (510) 317-0834 or (510) 332-0834 (24-hour message); gambaguy@msn.com.

Treble Viol Available to Rent

Treble viol by Michael Plant available for rent at reasonable price. Contact **Lee McRae**, (510) 848-5591, LmcR@aol.com.

Bass Viola da Gamba for Sale

Bass viol, Wolfgang Uebel, Germany, 1967. Good condition. 65cm string length. A division viol, nice and small. Comes with hard case and/or padded soft case. \$1,900. May be viewed and played in Berkeley. Contact Joan (707) 546-8505

Membership Updates

Updates

Ricardo Hofer
hofer52@gmail.com

Heather G. Irons
12 Winged Foot Circle
Abilene, TX 79606
hgirons@aol.com
(325) 665-9939

Julie Morrisett
1266 E 34th St.
Oakland, CA 94610
(510) 534-3690

GAMBA NEWS

Gamba News is published 10 times a year by the Pacifica chapter of the Viola da Gamba Society. It vacations in July and August.

PACIFICA CHAPTER BOARD

President	Ellen Farwell Leonardfarwell@comcast.net
Vice President	Ricardo Hofer hofermr@sbcglobal.net
Secretary	Joan Lounsbery joanl@sonic.net
Treasurer	Penni (Pj) Savage pjsavage@earthlink.net

BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE

Rental Coordinator	John Mark mark_bach8@hotmail.com
VdGSA chapter Representative	Lee McRae LmcR@aol.com
Coaching Liaison	Alexandra Saur alexandra@alexandrasaur.com
Webmaster	Helen Tyrrell hesuome@pacbell.net
Membership List Coordinator	Roy Whelden roywhelden@mac.com
Newsletter Editor	Julie Morrisett jmorrisett@gmail.com
Peter Ballinger	prbprdns@aol.com
John Dornenburg	jdlaac@got.net
Robin Easterbrook	reasterbrook@mac.com
Mary Elliott	marell3@sbcglobal.net
Julie Jeffrey	jjeffrey@library.berkeley.edu
Elisabeth Reed	ereed@soundbodies.net
Lyle York	lyleyork@earthlink.net

Contributions Welcome

Send concert listings and reviews, opinions, workshop experiences, CD reviews, drawings, or photos to Julie Morrisett, Editor, 1266 East 34th St., Oakland, CA, 94610, or jmorrisett@gmail.com; (510) 444-2380.

Classified Ads

Short classified advertisements in Gamba News are free to VdGS-Pacifica members. For non-members, ads are \$5 per issue. Please mail your check made out to VdGS-Pacifica to Julie Morrisett, Editor, 1148 Norwood Ave. #1, Oakland, CA 94610.

www.pacificaviols.org

Our VdGS-Pacifica chapter website is maintained and regularly updated by Helen Tyrrell. It contains the Viol Player's Calendar, along with a list of local teachers, sources for music, supplies, inexpensive viols, repairs, and travel tips. The VdGSA (national) website is www.vdgsa.org.

Rent a Viol

Pacifica has trebles, tenors and basses to rent. Donations of viols and bows to our rental program are extremely welcome—we'll accept them in any condition. Rental fees range from \$15 to \$30 per month. In charge of rentals is John Mark, 10 Holyrood Manor, Oakland, CA 94611; (510) 531-1471; mark_bach8@hotmail.com.

Donating to VdGS-Pacifica

The Pacifica Chapter is an affiliate of the San Francisco Early Music Society (SFEMS), and along with other privileges this affiliation confers, we can receive tax-deductible donations. These include not only cash but viols, bows, musical scores, method books, tuners, stands and other viol paraphernalia. Especially since we now have a Youth Project working to teach young people the viol, please remember the chapter when you are cleaning out your music room.

Cash donations can be used for new rental instruments and bows, new music for the chapter playing library, the Pacifica Youth Project, or our scholarship fund.

To ensure that your donation will be tax-deductible, please make out the check to SFEMS with a note on the lower left corner: "for VdGS-Pacifica." Then send your donation check to Penni Savage, Treasurer, VdGS-Pacifica, 436 Hudson Street, Oakland, CA 94618. She will forward your check to SFEMS.

SFEMS will accept and record the donation, then transfer the funds to us. You will receive an acknowledgment letter from SFEMS for your tax records.

When you donate a viol or other materials, you will receive a letter citing the estimated value of the instrument or materials for your tax records.

Mark Your Calendar

Friday, September 7

Alice's Renaissance String Band, with guest soprano Christina Schiffner, will present "Where My Fancy Takes Me," a concert of solos, duets, and trios by Campion, Bevin, Ortiz, Locke, Purcell, Gibbons and Josquin.

8:00 pm, *MusicSources*, 1000 The Alameda, Berkeley (corner Marin.)

Saturday, September 8

Alice's Renaissance String Band repeats program of September 7. Light refreshments will be served.

2:00 pm, the home of Matthew Wilson and Lyle York, 1932 Thousand Oaks Blvd., Berkeley. (510) 559-9273 or lileyork@earthlink.net for directions.

Sunday, September 9

Elisabeth Reed performs a diverse program of solo and trio music for the viol as part of the San Francisco Conservatory Faculty Artist Series. Elisabeth will be joined by the other Wildcat Viols for trio music and by Corey Jameson, harpsichord.

2:00 pm, San Francisco Conservatory of Music Recital Hall, 50 Oak St., San Francisco. \$20/\$15. www.sfc.edu

Friday, October 26

Magnificat presents "Music from Hamburg, 1607." The group will be joined by **Sex Chordae Consort of Viols** (John Dornenburg, Julie Jeffrey, David Morris, Farley Pearce, violas da gamba) as well as **The Whole Noyse**. The program is a reconstruction of the 1607 re-dedication of St. Gertrude's Chapel in Hamburg, featuring composers such as Hieronymus Praetorius and Jakob Handl.

8:00 pm, All Saints Episcopal Church, 555 Waverly St., Palo Alto. \$28/\$20/\$12. www.magnificatbaroque.org

Saturday, October 27

Magnificat repeats program of October 26.

8:00 pm, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 2300 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. \$28/\$20/\$12. www.magnificatbaroque.org

Saturday, October 27

Mid-Peninsula Recorder Orchestra Workshop: A Comparison of Renaissance and Baroque—What sets them apart? Conducted by Frances Blaker. Learn what musical features distinguish these two periods through playing. Space limited; registration encouraged. Recorders, viols, voices, and renaissance flutes are all welcome.

9:30 am - 4:30 pm, Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto, 505 East Charleston Road, Palo Alto. SFEMS members \$35. Bring lunch and a music stand. (415) 664-9050, www.sfems.org/impro

Sunday, October 28

Magnificat repeats program of October 26.

4:00 pm, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 1111 O'Farrell St., San Francisco. \$28/\$20/\$12. www.magnificatbaroque.org